

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/741,018
Amendment dated November 20, 2003
Reply to OA of September 3, 2003

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 are pending in this application. Claim 1 has been amended in order to more particularly point out, and distinctly claim the subject matter to which the applicants regard as their invention. The applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added. It is believed that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated September 3, 2003.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC §102

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Wood (U.S. Patent No. 6,178,514).

Wood describes a USB cable (28) connected to a USB hub (42) that is in turn connected to a USB device (62), such as USB speakers (22) or a USB keyboard (16). If the USB device (62) is intended to draw more than 500 mA of current, it is typically provided with its own external power supply. When a controller (224) determines that an external power supply is not present, then the controller communicates to the USB hub (42) that the USB device should be considered as a low power device.

The present invention is a portable electronic device (1) connected to a personal computer (2) via a USB cable (11). An external power source (3) may be connected to USB connector (4). When the external power source (3) is connected to the USB connector (4), the voltage detected is less than 4.4 V and CPU (7) causes charging of the built-in secondary cell and execution of device operation processing based on user input to the device. When the external power source (3) is not

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connected to the USB connector (4), the voltage detected is greater than or equal to 4.4 V and CPU (7) causes USB controller (6) to start data communication processing.

However, Wood does not describe the common serial bus controller causing the execution of predetermined data communication processing while power voltage is greater than or equal to 4.4 Volts and is supplied from the information processing device, or execution of the usual device operation processing while power voltage is less than 4.4 Volts and is supplied from the external power source or the internal power source.

Specifically, claim 1 patentably distinguishes over the prior art relied upon by reciting:

“A portable electronic device comprising a common serial bus connector provided with data terminals and a power supply terminal in compliance with a common serial bus standard for connecting a plurality of peripheral devices in common to a host information processing device, a common serial bus controller for executing predetermined data communication processing attendant on data communication with an information processing device connected to the common serial bus controller connector, and a control circuit connected to the common serial bus controller for executing device operation processing for the usual operation of the electronic device, the electronic device being capable of receiving a power supply from the information processing device or an external power source as connected to the common serial bus connector or from an internal power source, the portable electronic device being characterized in that the control circuit discriminates among the sources of supply of power and causes the common serial bus controller to execute the predetermined data communication processing while power voltage is greater than or equal to 4.4 volts and is supplied from the information processing device connected to the common serial bus connector, or executes the usual device operation processing while power voltage is less than 4.4 volts and is supplied from the external power source connected to the common serial bus connector.”
(Emphasis Added)

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1-5 under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Wood (U.S. Patent No. 6,178,514) is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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